

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 10. Please amend claims 1-5, 14, 16, 22, and 29. Please add new claim 30. The claims are as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for use in a user system, for accessing information related to a physical document, said method comprising:

identifying an existing physical document;

after said identifying the existing physical document, identifying and locating an electronic copy of said identified existing physical document, wherein the electronic copy of the document is an exact replica of the physical document;

identifying one page or a plurality of pages of said physical document; [[and]]

identifying a selected part of the physical document using the position of points on said identified one page or a plurality of pages;

in response to said identifying the selected part of the physical document using the position of points on said identified one page or a plurality of pages, retrieving, from the electronic copy of the physical document, data related to the selected part of the physical document;

presenting said retrieved data visually to a visually impaired person or orally to a blind person on the user system, wherein said presenting said retrieved data visually is configured to enable the visually impaired person to see said retrieved data, and wherein said presenting said retrieved data orally is configured to enable the blind person to hear said retrieved data.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~identifying one or a plurality of pages of said physical document and~~ identifying a part of the identified physical document using the position of points on said identified one page or a plurality of pages further comprises pressing said points on a touch foil successively placed and aligned over or under said identified one page or a plurality of pages.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said physical document and said one page or a plurality of pages in said physical document are selected by a user.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~a point on a touch foil is pressed~~ said pressing comprises pressing said points with a fingertip or a pen on a touch foil.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the selected part of the physical document comprises a start point on a first page of the physical document and an end point on a second page of the physical document, wherein the first and second pages are different pages of the physical document, and wherein said identifying one page or a plurality of pages of said physical document and identifying a selected part of the physical document using the position of points pressed on a touch foil successively placed and aligned over or under said identified one page or a plurality of pages comprises consists of:

identifying ~~[[a]]~~ the first page in said physical document;

determining the position of a first point pressed on the touch foil placed and aligned over or under the identified first page, said first point ~~corresponding to~~ being the start point of a part selected in said identified document;

if start point and end point of the selected part are on a same page:-

————— determining the position of a second point pressed on the touch foil placed and aligned over or under the identified page of said document, said second point corresponding to the end point of said selected part;

————— if start point and end point are not on a same page:

identifying ~~[[a]]~~ the second page in said physical document;

determining the position of a second point pressed on the touch foil placed and aligned over or under the identified second page of said document, said second point ~~corresponding to~~ being the end point;

identifying the selected part of the physical document using the position of the start point and the end point.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said presenting comprises presenting said retrieved data orally to the blind person on the user system, and wherein said presenting said retrieved data orally comprises:

extracting text data from said data;

converting said text data into data that can be audibly read.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said converting said text data into data that can be electronically read comprises:

audibly reading, to the blind person on the user system, said text data by means of a text-to-speech system.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said presenting comprises presenting said retrieved data visually to the visually impaired person on the user system, and wherein said presenting said retrieved data visually comprises:

magnifying the retrieved data on a screen such that the magnified retrieved data can be visually read by the visually impaired person.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said magnifying the retrieved data on the screen comprises:

magnifying on the screen the electronic copy of the selected part of the physical document.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said presenting comprises presenting said retrieved data visually to the visually impaired person on the user system, and wherein said presenting the retrieved data visually comprises:

enhancing on a screen the electronic copy of the selected part of the physical document to match a preferred reading view of the visually impaired person.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said identifying the physical document comprises:

reading, by means of a barcode reader, a document identifier printed on said physical document at a predefined position.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said identifying one page or a plurality of pages consists of said identifying one page, and wherein said identifying [[a]] one page in said physical document comprises:

reading, by means of a barcode reader, a page identifier printed on said one page at a predefined position.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said presenting comprises presenting said retrieved data orally to the blind person on the user system, and wherein said retrieving, from the electronic copy of the document, data related to the selected part of the physical document comprises:

identifying and locating information and services associated with the selected part of the physical document;

retrieving said information and services; and

audibly playing said information and services on the user system.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein said information associated with the selected part of the physical document comprises a description of graphical data pertaining to an image and related to the selected part of the physical document, and wherein said audibly playing comprises audibly playing said description of said graphical data to the blind person on the user system.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said presenting comprises presenting said retrieved data orally to the blind person on the user system, and wherein said identifying and locating an electronic copy of the identified document comprises:

identifying and locating information associated with the physical document;

retrieving said information; and

audibly playing said information to the blind person on the user system.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17,

wherein the information associated with the physical document comprises speech instructions related to the physical document;

wherein the speech instructions comprise speech instructions for locating positions of bar codes on pages of the physical document;

wherein said audibly playing comprises audibly playing, to the blind person on the user system, said speech instructions for locating said positions of bar codes on pages of the physical document;

wherein a first bar code of said bar codes enables access to a title of the physical document, a name of an author of the physical document, a date of publication of the physical document, and an International Standard Book Number (ISBN) of the physical document; and

wherein said title, said name, said date, and said ISBN are stored on a server connected to the user system.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said user system is connected to a communication network comprising plurality of servers, and wherein the electronic copy of the physical document is located on one server of said plurality of servers.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic copy of the physical document is located on the user system.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said user system is connected to a communication network comprising a plurality of servers, wherein information and services

associated with said physical document are located on each server of said plurality of servers, wherein the information comprises said data related to the selected part of the physical document, and wherein the method further comprises:

transmitting to a given server of the plurality of servers a document identification code that identifies the electronic copy of the physical document and at least one page identification code that identifies the one page or a plurality of pages of the physical document.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic copy of the physical document and information and services associated with said physical document are located on the user system.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said physical document comprises Braille indications.

26. (Previously Presented) A user system comprising means adapted for carrying out the method according to claim 1.

27. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

said user system of claim 26 connected to a communication network;

a touch foil to be placed over or under a page of a physical document for:

detecting a pressure exercised over one or a plurality of point of its surface; and
determining the coordinates of said one or plurality of points; and
a connection between said touch foil and the user system.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, said system further comprising a bar code reader connected to said user system for reading bar codes on the physical document.

29. (Currently amended) A computer ~~program~~ readable tangible storage device comprising instructions for carrying out the method according to claim 1, ~~when said computer program~~ wherein said method is executed by said instructions on[[the]] a user system ~~according to claim~~
26 comprising means for executing said method.

30. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the method does not comprise using an electronic reading machine based on a page scanner, and wherein the method does not comprise using optical character recognition (OCR).